

EDITORIAL

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Obituary: Asghar Aghamohammadi (1951-2020)



Asghar Aghamohammadi, Professor of Allergy and Clinical Immunology at Tehran University of Medical Sciences passed away on November 14, 2020, at the age of 69. We were suddenly stunned when we heard about his unexpected death because of SARS-Cov2 infection. He left us like many other doctors, nurses, and health care providers who were known as health defenders of their countries, in the COVID-19 pandemic.

He had been working continuously until the last week before his death. He had high hopes for the future and fervent expectations for his upcoming research projects and student dissertations.

Prof. Aghamohammadi was born on May 31st, 1951 in Ahwaz to an average family. His father was constantly encouraging his children to seek academic education. In the first high school years, he was interested in studying Law, until the last summer of high school when he was trained by a physician for first aid. This resulted in the shift of his enthusiasm for medicine.

After completing his primary and secondary schools in Ahwaz, he started his education in Medicine and was awarded the MD degree in 1978 from Ahwaz Jundishapur University of Medical Sciences.

In 1984, he started studying pediatrics at Tehran University of Medical Sciences. Because he was interested in the field of immunology, he came to the Children's Medical Center Hospital for 2 months during his residency and was trained under the supervision of

the late Prof. Farhoudi. In 1988, a new immunology fellowship course was launched (by the efforts of the late Prof. Farhoudi and his colleagues) in some university hospitals including the immunology department of Children's Medical Center Hospital. In the same year, Prof. Aghamohammadi was admitted to the entrance exam for the subspecialty field of immunology.

Following completing a three-year subspecialty course in Allergy and Clinical Immunology in Iran (1988-1991), he went to England for passing a three-year Pediatric Clinical Immunology fellowship in the clinical immunology department of Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH) affiliated with the Institute of Child Health, University of London. Then he returned to the country and worked as a faculty member at the Children's Medical Center.

In 2007, he became a Professor in Pediatrics, Allergy and Clinical Immunology. Teaching and research in the field of immunodeficiency alongside visiting the patients were among his areas of interest. His main research interests were primary immunodeficiency mainly primary antibody deficiency disorders (XLA and CVID, IgA deficiency, Hyper IgM syndrome) as well as management and Treating the patients.

Prof. Aghamohammadi became a member of the editorial board of the Iranian Journal of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology in the year 2000. In addition to writing several papers for this journal, he was collaborating as a reviewer for the journal. He was also a member of many Iranian and international societies such as the Iranian Society of Asthma and Allergy and the British Society for Immunology.

During more than two decades of professional work, he provided valuable educational and research achievements, including publishing hundreds of scientific papers in national and international journals, writing several books on the subject of immunodeficiency such as "Primary immunodeficiency diseases: definition, diagnosis, and management, 2008, Springer (ISBN 978 -964 -3-540-78537-8), receiving several awards and honors, participating in the launch of the immunodeficiency patient registration system

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and the establishment of an Immunodeficiency Research Center in Iran. One of his most important honors at the international scientific level was to be on the list of 1% of the world's scientists in the field of immunology.

Prof. Aghamohammadi was an outstanding academician and devoted clinician, who paid a great deal of time and dedication to his students and patients. Indeed, we will never forget such a scientific personality for his great contribution in the field of immunology to train the young medical students, researchers, and pediatricians.

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